

# **INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS**

## **United States Department of Agriculture**

Release - Immediate

WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 11, 1938

### **NEW BULLETIN TELLS HOW WILDLIFE PROFITS FROM EROSION CONTROL**

- - -

Soil conservation and wildlife management go hand in hand, according to a new Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin that explains how farmers in the Southeast can control soil erosion and at the same time create potential havens for game birds, fur-bearing animals, and various other forms of desirable farm wildlife.

The bulletin, "Wildlife Conservation Through Erosion Control in the Piedmont", was written by Ross C. Stevens of the Soil Conservation Service, who declares the relation between soil conservation and wildlife management is so close that by proper planning, the benefits of both can be achieved in the same operation.

Stevens declares that erosion has left scars in the form of gullies, galled spots, and impoverished fields, on a majority of farms in the Southeast. By healing these scars with vegetation which benefits wildlife, farmers can prevent the damage from spreading to adjacent good lands, and the eroded areas, often considered worthless, can be put to work producing crops of wildlife.

The bulletin describes in detail the various practices that have proved successful in both soil and wildlife conservation and gives complete information concerning the selection of proper shrubs and other fruit- and seed-bearing plants that are effective in erosion control and especially beneficial to wildlife.

In pointing out the advantages of an abundance of wildlife, the writer says the birds, mammals, and other species, help protect crops against pests, provide sport and recreation, add beauty to the farm, and in some cases have a real market

value. Any possible damage to farm crops by increased numbers of wildlife is ordinarily offset by the other values, he says.

Publication of this bulletin, says the Department of Agriculture, calls further attention to the interdependence of wildlife conservation and agriculture. Development of farm game conservation has been greatly aided by the fact that one bureau of the Department, the Biological Survey, is primarily concerned with wildlife, and other bureaus are providing for incidental wildlife benefits in their programs. The new bulletin refers to earlier Biological Survey publications on Improving the Farm Environment for Wildlife, and Game Management on the Farm.

The new publication, Farmers' Bulletin No. 1788, is written in popular style and freely illustrated. Copies may be obtained from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

- - - B - - -